

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application:)	
)	
Braun et al.)	Before the Examiner
)	
Serial No. New Application)	Unknown
)	
Filed Herewith)	
)	
ORTHOPEDIC DISTRACTION)	Atty Docket No. 4002-3068/PC798.00
IMPLANTS AND TECHNIQUES)	
)	January 30, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure embodied in 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and 1.98,
Applicant wishes to bring to the attention of the Examiner the items of information listed
on the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant. This information has
not been previously submitted in this application, and has not been heretofore cited by the
examiner. Copies of the non-U.S. Patent references are enclosed herewith.

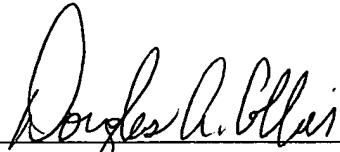
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George H. Collier

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, prior art or material to the patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

This Statement is being submitted with the filing of the application and before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, it is believed that no fee is required for consideration of the submitted items. Should any fee be required, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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004002-003068.DAC.262903

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	New Application
				Filing Date	Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Braun
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
				Attorney Docket Number	4002-3068/PC798.00

[illegible][illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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				Application Number	New Application	
				Filing Date	Herewith	
				First Named Inventor	Braun	
				Group Art Unit		
Examiner Name						
Attorney Docket Number	4002-3068/PC798.00					
Sheet	1	of	3			

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (If known)			
	1	US-3,565,066	02/1971	Roaf	
	2	US-3,865,105	02/1975	Lode	
	3	US-3,977,397	08/1976	Kalnberz et al.	
	4	US-4,078,559	03/1978	Nissinen	
	5	US-4,369,770	01/1983	Bacal et al.	
	6	US-4,386,603	06/1983	Mayfield	
	7	US-5,147,360	09/1992	Dubousset	
	8	US-5,282,863	02/1994	Burton	
	9	US-5,540,688	07/1996	Navas	
	10	US-5,609,634	03/1997	Voydeville	
	11	US-5,672,175	09/1997	Martin	
	12	US-5,683,390	11/1997	Metz-Stavenhagen et al.	
	13	US-5,702,395	12/1997	Hopf	
	14	US-5,961,516	10/1999	Graf	
	15	US-6,015,409	01/2000	Jackson	
	16	US-6,019,760	02/2000	Metz-Stavenhagen et al.	
	17	US-6,132,431	10/2000	Nilsson et al.	
	18	US-6,224,599	05/2001	Jackson	

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (If known)				
	19	WO 96/01598	01-25-1996			
	20	EP 0 667 127 A1	08-16-1995			
	21	EP 0 669 109 B1	08-30-1995		pp.6, 810	

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004002-003068.DAC.262890